MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM VIDEO-CHAT ON 11th SEPTEMBER 2020

Present (Committee)

Present (Members)

Ian Brand (Chair)
Brian Baker (Secretary)
Joan Gillingham (Treasurer)
Sue Halford
Alfred Lott

See attached (not posted on website)

1. Welcome

Brian Baker (Secretary) welcomed everyone to the AGM.

2. Apologies for absence (Committee members only)

Lynda Sears.

3. Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes were approved.

4. Chairman's Report

lan Brand (Chairman) provided an overview of the Club's activities during the last year, see attached report.

5. Treasurer's Report

Joan Gillingham provided a copy of the Audited Statement of Accounts for Year Ending 31 July 2020; see attached report (not posted on website).

6. Tribute to Peter Tilley

Brian Baker gave a tribute to Peter Tilley who sadly passed away earlier in the year, see attached report.

7. Proposed Annual Membership and Course Fees

Sue Halford proposed that since meetings at the village hall had not been possible since March and were not likely to be possible until at least January 2021, the membership fee should be suspended for the new membership year. Nonetheless, in order to keep the membership list up-to-date Sue would request members to indicate whether they wished to remain members or not by email.

This proposal was approved by members.

8. Committee

The following members of the committee said they were willing to stand for re-election:

- (a) Chair Ian Brand
- (b) Treasurer Joan Gillingham
- (c) Secretary Brian Baker
- (d) Committee Members Sue Halford, Lynda Sears and Alfred Lott .

Laurence Parker proposed that the committee should be re-elected en-block . Vote approved.

9. Proposed Dates for 2020

Dates for 2020 were announced as follows:

(a) Autumn Term 2020
AGM - Friday 11 September 2020
Friday 18 September - Friday 27 November 2020 (11 weeks)
Christmas Party – Friday 4 December 2020

(b) Drop-in Clinics See below.

10. Proposed Courses for Autumn 2020

Since it was not possible to resume meeting at the village hall, all courses will be held via Zoom Video-chat until at least January 2021. Friday sessions will be from 10.00 until 10:40 and 11.00 until 11:40, although this may change as more is learnt about holding sessions via Zoom.

Sue Halford said she would provide an overview of the proposed courses for 2020 by email after the AGM, refer to club website at www.bscc.btck.co.uk.

Since it is not possible to hold clinics for the time being, members with specific questions that would have been taken to a clinic, should send Sue an email and the committee will either get back with an answer or arrange a time when help can be provided by phone, Zoom, or other resource such as Team Viewer

11. Any Other Business

John Cross gave an update on the re-opening of the Little Bookham Village Hall, refer to village hall website at www.lbvh.org.uk.

12. Date of Next AGM

To be agreed.

Brian Baker (Secretary)

23 September 2020

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AGM 2020

The Bookham Seniors Computer Club is about to enter its eleventh year. Most of you know that It was founded in 2010 to help those over 50 who had not grown up with computers to access the internet and communicate with email. This year, most of the club's members now have laptops that they could bring the courses held in the village hall. However, the club has several Toshiba Laptops that still function, and members could use for beginners' classes to find out what computers were all about. Most of the club's members now not only have a laptop, a tablet, or a smartphone; many now have two devices and quite a number have all three. The club now only has four of the original laptops which are used to prepare and deliver some courses and, very occasionally, for those very few members that only have a desktop computer and for the occasional absolute beginner who has no device at all, and, sometimes no internet at home either. Whatever the situation, all are still made very welcome. In the last few years, the club has also invested in an iPad, an Android tablet, and a printer. Now we have three main players in the Domestic computer world - Microsoft's Windows, Apples IOS and Googles Android each with differing devices and all updating their systems each year and bringing out new computers at least every third year. If we thought that the technology was challenging before, how things have changed phenomenally this year due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Firstly, it would be extremely remiss of me not to take this opportunity in the first instance and on behalf of the committee to thank all of you for your support during this difficult time. We believe the camaraderie, making friends and generally enjoying the social gathering every Friday in the village hall is heart of the club. The downside of the current situation is that we cannot look over your shoulder, on a one to one basis, and show which keys to press or icons to select - not only during courses but especially with our clinics.

However, thanks to the magnificent efforts of Brian and Sue not withstanding Joan's preparation of the financial accounts and Lynda and Alfred, for keeping our feet on the ground, we can now at least meet safely once a week as Zoom Buddies.

At this time, I would also like to express my great appreciation on your behalf to two members of the committee for their support during this time. Firstly, to Brian for organising and ensuring our regular weekly Zoom committee meetings take place and where the committee can direct their thoughts as to where the club goes from here. In addition, for ensuring the club keeps up to date with all things Mobile.

I would also like to give a special thanks to Sue for organising an entertaining Zoom session for all members on Fridays at 11:00 am on a great number of interesting and fascinating topics which range from quizzes to hints and tips on using a computer. Sue's knowledge of all things Windows and keeping pace with its updates and torrents of Programs and apps requires a great deal of effort.

The courses have changed as well. We have now provided over 30 different courses and the number grows every year. Over the last few years, we added sessions on digital photography, Windows 10, security, backing-up, tablets and, last year for the first time, smartphones. Now, of course we communicate online buy online and as a result many social media apps (Zoom, Googles Hangouts, WhatsApp and many others) all have exploded online causing all sorts of Mayhem

And, of course, the devices and software keeps changing: Microsoft now updates Windows 10 twice a year, Apple keeps bringing out new iPads and iPhones and changing the operating systems that drive them, Android based tablets and smartphones keep changing and Google keeps changing the Android operating system and so it goes on.

But that is why we love it.

Keeping up with these changes can sometimes be a challenge but trying to keep on top of them, understanding them, developing new courses to explain some of them and helping you and others with them, keeps our minds active.

We enjoy it.

But it is not just about new products and features as sometimes the changes can be especially important. For example, support for the Windows 10 November 12 Update (build 1909) ends in May 2021 so if you are not sure which version you are on or haven't yet updated you should do something about it soon. And that is where our clinics come in; they are an opportunity to help you with these and many other types of issue, and of course we all know about the problems that Update 2004 this year has caused

This year, we are proposing some changes to the way we operate. You will hear from Sue shortly about the changes we are proposing to the annual membership and course fees, so I will not cover them now.

But until we can return to the hall, we will need to make some changes to the course structure as well. To publish our schedule for the autumn term we have had to choose courses that we believe we can deliver via Zoom. This may mean that the topics for courses will be limited to a more specific skill and we hope that we can offer enough varied courses to interest many of you. We will run through our proposed course schedule shortly.

But we are also making some changes to the course structure as well. In addition to publishing our schedule for the forthcoming term at the start of each term, (which you can see on the tables at the back of the hall), where we can we are making each week of course that runs for two or more weeks an independent, self-contained session so that you don't have to attend every week if you can't or don't want to. We will run through our proposed course schedule shortly.

So, to wrap up, I would like to thank all the committee members here and of course those who are not here today for their help and support throughout the year.

I would also like to thank all of you, our members. Without you we would not be able to keep the club going – you allow us to continue to offer help via email and telephone and courses by spreading the word about our club.

We hope you have enjoyed any and every of the sessions you have joined this year and hope you will sign-up for many more. The list of courses will be sent to you after this meeting and you can let Sue know of any which are of interest to you so that she can prepare the registers. You can continue to suggest anything that we may have missed or some new app that you have wanted to try that we have not covered in the past. An email to any of us is welcome.

You can also contact us by phone or email. You should all have Sue's email address from her newsletters. Our contact details are also in the Bookham Bulletin and the new Roundabout Effingham magazine. There is also a 'Contact Us' form on the website.

Finally, I, as before, hope the next eleven years will be as much fun as the last ten years.

Meanwhile on behalf of the committee we trust you and your families and friends remain safe during these testing times.

TRIBUTE TO PETER TILLEY

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Peter Tilley who sadly passed away earlier this year.

Peter was a key figure in Computer Club for many years.

He was instrumental in helping the club find a location for its meetings and although the LBVH didn't have internet or even a phone, Peter arranged for them to be installed.

He had a career in IT and subsequently volunteered to help teach in, what at that time, were three sessions per week, a considerable commitment on his own personal time.

Peter also invited the club to have meetings in his home where he had a room with internet access for 5 or 6 devices. We also had many of our committee meetings there. And as you know, he was always willing to help.

On a personal note, it was Peter who introduced me to the club and we had many happy times together discussing various topics relating to the club and the village hall.

Peter will be sadly missed.